

LCF Volunteer Newsletter

Lansing Correctional Facility

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Volume 9, Issue 2

A Word From Winkelbauer



Colette Winkelbauer,
Deputy Warden Support Services

The seasons are changing and hot weather will be around the corner. Just a reminder that everyone can get a little cranky this time of the year. So hopefully the inmates will not be disruptive in your callout, if they are you know what to do, address it yourself, tell the officer, or tell Renda and we will address it.

April 24th was the volunteer appreciation event and it was a great evening. Special thanks to Tamara Carson and Ole Music & Dance of Spain for their performance, it was wonderful! John Vanzant was chosen as the Volunteer of the Year for Lansing Correctional Facility. He was not recognized at the volunteer appreciation dinner as he was out of town. I did have the privilege of accompanying John as well as the Uniformed Officer, John Thomas,

the Non-Uniformed staff, Harold Sass; and the Contract Employee, Elizabeth Dehaven to Topeka on May 20th to be honored by Governor Parkinson. After the awards ceremony at the Capital lunch was served to the honorees at the Topeka Correctional Facility. It was a good day for all the honorees.

All volunteers are critical to the mission of Corrections and I deeply appreciate your giving of your time and talent to change and shape inmate's behavior for the better. Thanks again

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Kansas Department of Corrections Announces Suspension of Operations at El Dorado Correctional Facility-North Unit

The North Unit employs 21 Full Time Equivalent state staff. Currently, 19 of those positions are filled. Those employees will be absorbed into currently vacant positions at the EDCF-Central Unit.

Suspending operations of the EDCF-North Unit is one of the first of several steps the Department will take to meet the most recent budget reduction.

Kansas Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz announced that the operations at the El Dorado Correctional Facility (EDCF) – North Unit will be suspended no later than July 1, 2009.

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Volunteer Training- - - -

We are now offering Volunteer Orientation class on the same days as our Returning Volunteer classes.

Here are the upcoming training dates:

- June 13, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m. (Saturday)
- July 9, 2009 @ 2:30 p.m. (Thursday)
- August 1, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m. (Saturday)
- September 10, 2009 @ 2:30 p.m. (Thursday)
- October 8, 2009 @ 2:30 p.m. (Thursday)
- November 7, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m. (Saturday)

Feel free to call if you want a specific date.

Please do not come unannounced.

Seating may not be available for you and your new LCF identification card will not be available.

Please remember you will be going through our new security process at the training building entrance. Leave your cell phones in the car and do not wear shorts or blue jeans.

Volunteers need to come to training every 12 months, even though your ID may not be expired.



To reach Renda Craft, LCF Volunteer Services Coordinator, you may call (913) 727-3235 ext. 7246 or e-mail her at RendaC@kdoc.dc.state.ks.us

Volunteer Guests

I still receive lots of questions on this. I will leave this in the newsletters to help you out.

One-Time Visit

If you want to bring in a guest to be a presenter or to recruit them for your group, you can bring them in one time. Please do not ask for visiting relatives or friends to visit.

They must meet a few criteria:

- 1) They must be over 21 yrs old,
- 2) They cannot be on parole or probation
- 3) They must dress appropriately
- 4) They must be aware of what they can and cannot bring into the facility
- 5) We will need to know the reason for the visit

The Volunteer Coordinator or staff

Program Coordinator must be notified 5 or more working days in advance of the date entering. We will need:

- A) the date of visit
- B) which volunteer is escorting
- C) which callout & unit is the visit

This staff person then asks the approval of a Deputy Warden electronically and forwards the approval to the designated entry area.



Chatting With the Chaplains



Exact dates are elusive, and I know we just got bumped back almost a week. We are getting closer though. Will sure be good to get home.



-Chaplain Richard Dunn

It remains VERY hot over here. Highs are normally pushing 120, and climbing. Hotter days are ahead of us. But...so is redeployment.

Upcoming Inmate Events and Celebrations

The Chaplaincy, Activities and Volunteer departments are constantly busy and here are just a few upcoming events.

June

13th—Max Motorcycle Show
17th—Asatru Solstice Celebration
20th—East African Awareness Banq
20th—Med African Awareness Banq
21st—Med/East Native Amer Sweat
21st—Med Thelema Solstice
23rd—Max Wiccan Sabbat
27th—Med/East Native Amer Seasonal Dance

27th—Med Veterans Banq

July

12th—Max Native Amer Sweat
12th—East Baptisms
15th—Asatru Monthly Celebration
18th—East Motorcycle Show
18th—East Protestant Banq
19th—Med/East Native Amer Sweat

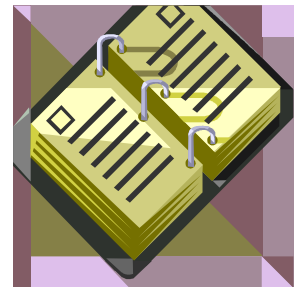
August

8th—Med Motorcycle Show
29th—Med Manna Concert

October

17th—Med Catholic Banq

Thank you to all the volunteers involved with these and upcoming events.



The majority of men meet with failure because of their lack of persistence in creating new plans to take the place of those which fail.

-Napoleon Hill (1883-1970)

(Continued from page 1)

“The Omnibus Spending Bill which included an additional 2.75% cut in agency budgets will require the Department of Corrections to reduce its FY 2010 budget by approximately \$6 million,” Secretary Werholtz said. “The North Unit at EDCF has an annual operating budget of approximately \$1.2 million and suspending operations there is one of the first of several steps the Department will take to meet the most recent budget reduction.”

The EDCF–North Unit (formerly known as the El Dorado Honor Camp) is a minimum security facility with a capacity for 102 inmates. Currently, the facility has a population of 102. Those inmates will be transferred to other facilities throughout the correctional system. At the present time, the Department has a total capacity for 8,099 male inmates, and a male population of 8,031. The Department is in the process of placing inmates at several facilities that have resulted in the facilities being over capacity. The Department does anticipate re-opening the “B” Housing Unit at Winfield Correctional Facility within the next several weeks, adding 176 beds for minimum security male inmates.

The North Unit employs 21 Full Time Equivalent state staff. Currently, 19 of those positions are filled. Those employees will be absorbed into currently vacant positions at the EDCF - Central Unit.

“We knew when the Omnibus Bill was approved last week that we would be faced with a number of difficult decisions, and this is one of the first of those,” Werholtz said. “Additional announcements will be made in coming days as decisions are made regarding other budget reductions.”



El Dorado Correctional Facility

Cabin Building Program

Beginning in FY 2007, the Kansas Department of Corrections partnered with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KWP) to build cabins for placement in state parks. In addition to the cabins, inmates at Norton Correctional Facility, and Topeka Correctional Facility build cabinets and furniture that are installed in the cabins. This program is funded in part by the Kansas Wildscape (Wildscape) Foundation, a conservation fund-raising organization. The program has demonstrated a strong collaboration between the Department, KWP and Wildscape by providing high quality cabins to meet the demand of housing for visitors to Kansas state parks.



To see a video of this project, please use the following link:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rVwhqg842JM>

Kansas Department of Corrections Contracts for Enhanced Inmate Banking, Electronic Messaging and Video Visitation



Kansas Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz announced that the Department of Corrections has entered into a contract amendment with Embarq™ Payphone Services Inc., a unit of Embarq™ Corp., of Overland Park to improve security and reduce the introduction of contraband, reduce staff time and involvement in screening mail and generate commissions for the KDOC in the areas of inmate trust accounts (banking), mail, and visitation.

Utilizing kiosk platforms located in each correctional facility, friends and family members of inmates can: send funds to an inmate on-line, by phone, or at cash locations, send electronic messages, and conduct video visiting from an off-site location.

“For years, the administration of inmate financial accounts and processing of mail has required a significant amount of staff time,” Secretary Werholtz said. “Inmate mail is one of the primary methods for introducing contraband into a correctional facility, and also requires significant staff resources. I am very pleased that the services offered by Embarq/JPay will help us dramatically improve our ability to process, monitor and track these activities.”

Utilizing JPay’s kiosk platforms located in each Kansas correctional facility, friends and family members of Kansas inmates can:

- Send funds to an inmate on-line, by phone, or at cash locations. Previously, money orders had to be processed by hand in each of the facility business offices.
- Send electronic messages to specific inmates, and inmates can respond via electronic mail to those on the outside who have initiated the electronic message contact. Previously, each incoming envelope was opened and inspected for contraband. Depending on security issues involving a particular inmate, each incoming piece of mail from family or friends was read by a staff member. The volume of paper processed by facility mail rooms is expected to decrease dramatically using the JPay messaging system. This service is expected to be operational in May 2009.
- Conduct video visiting from an off-site location. Travel is frequently difficult for an inmate’s family or friends. Video visitation will dramatically reduce the amount of time someone spends traveling to and from a facility, and reduce the number of visitors who are processed in to and out of a facility for visitation. This service is expected to be operational later this year.

Founded in 2001, JPay now provides services to over 1,000,000 inmates in the United States. JPay is the industry leader in providing innovative technology solutions for correctional environments.

Started March 2009

Welcome New Volunteers!

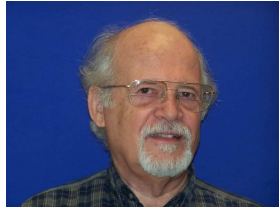
Please welcome the new
volunteers to LCF from the
last few months.



Gbaike Ajayi



Anna Beard



Ronald Beard



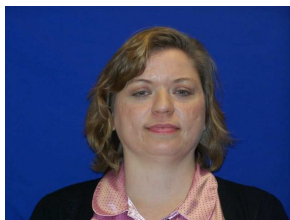
Judy Beiriger



Alan Cotton



Jo Lynn Cotton



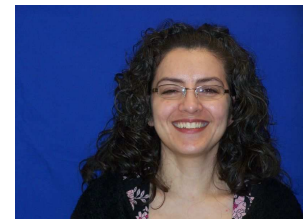
Marcia Foil



Arthur Goodreau



Brian Lovgren



Sonya Martinez



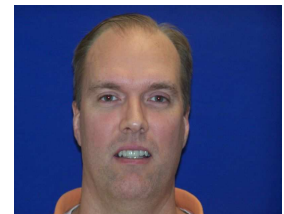
Lynder Montgomery



James Nickelsen



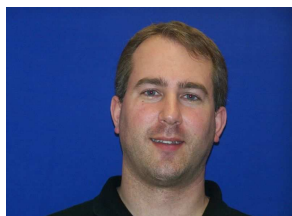
Caryl Neinas



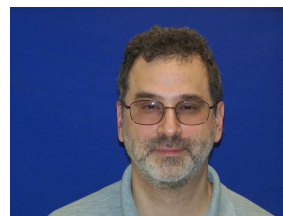
John Ocker



Sonny Omodehinde



Jason Presley



Alex Sanchez



Robert Strong



Stephan Thomas



Georann Whitmann



Kevin Williams



Kenneth Wilson



David Woolridge



Tony Borsella

Started April 2009



Enrique De La Guardia



Guy Berry



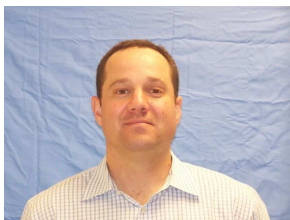
Lamond Bowles



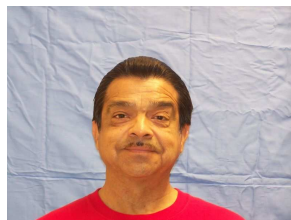
Denise Case



David Howton



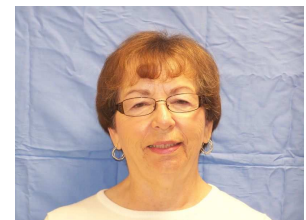
Long, Jason



Robert Montes



David Nelson



Marcia Nicely

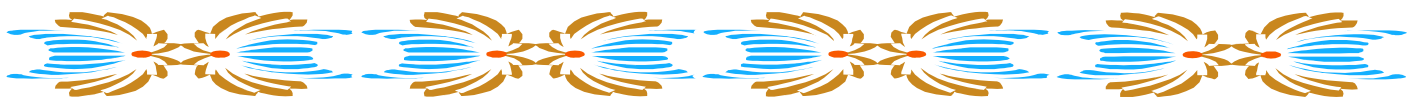


Donald Strickland



Lawrence Swinson

Started May 2009



2009 Volunteer Appreciation Event

On April 24, 2009 we held the annual appreciation event at the Lansing Community Center. Approximately 200 people came and we had fun celebrating in a Spanish flavor with piñatas and dancing. Mi Rancho catered our lovely meal. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who helped with this. As always, we appreciate our volunteers so much and all the hard work they do here at the facility.

